

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

Status of Claims:

Claims 26-34 are currently being cancelled.

Claim 21 is currently being amended.

No claims are currently being added.

This amendment and reply cancels and amends claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claims remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

After canceling and amending the claims as set forth above, claims 8-10 and 13-24 are now pending in this application.

Indication of Allowable Subject Matter:

Applicants appreciate the indication of allowable subject matter made in the final Office Action with respect to claims 8-10, 13-20 (“allowed”) and 21-24 (“objected to”).

Double Patenting Rejection:

In the final Office Action, claims 26, 29 and 32 were provisionally rejected on the ground of non-statutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1, 5 and 8 of U.S. Patent Application 11/030,061. Due to the cancellation of claims 26, 29 and 32, this rejection is now moot.

Claim Objections:

In the final Office Action, claims 21-24 were objected to, because ‘the own terminal’ in the last limitation of claim 21 has not been changed to ‘the terminal device’ as was done in the preceding claim limitations. By way of the amendments made to claim 21 in this after-final response, this objection has been overcome. Therefore, claims 21-24 are now in condition for allowance.

Claim Rejections – Prior Art:

In the final Office Action, claims 26, 27 and 29-34 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,484,028 to Okada et al. in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2005/0063401 to Kenner et al. and U.S. Patent No. 5,706,428 to Boer; and claim 28 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Okada in view of Kenner and Boer as applied to claim 27, and further in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2006/0223115 to Hanson. Due to the cancellation of claims 26-34, these rejections are now moot.

Conclusion:

Since all of the issues raised in the final Office Action have been addressed in this Amendment and Reply, Applicants believe that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and an early indication of allowance is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing or a credit card payment form being unsigned, providing incorrect information resulting in a rejected credit card transaction, or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicants hereby petition for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorize payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

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FOLEY & LARDNER LLP
Customer Number: 22428
Telephone: (202) 945-6162
Facsimile: (202) 672-5399

By Phillip J. Articola

Pavan K. Agarwal
Registration No. 40,888

Phillip J. Articola
Registration No. 38,819